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# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
Plaintiff,	) ) No 4:25 CD 90 IAI	D
v.	) No. 4:25-CR-89-JAI	•
ANSELMO PUYICATLA-VENTURA,	)	
Defendant.	j ,	

# **GUILTY PLEA AGREEMENT**

Come now the parties and hereby agree, as follows:

### 1. PARTIES:

The parties are Defendant, Anselmo Puyicatla-Ventura, represented by defense counsel, Scott Krischke, and the United States of America (hereinafter "Government"), represented by the Office of the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri. This agreement does not, and is not intended to, bind any governmental office or agency other than the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri. The Court is neither a party to nor bound by this agreement.

### 2. GUILTY PLEA:

A. The Plea: Pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(A), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, in exchange for Defendant's voluntary plea of guilty to Count One of the Indictment, the Government agrees that no further federal prosecution will be brought in this District relative to Defendant's illegal reentry into the United States, as reflected in both the Indictment and this Agreement, of which the government is aware.

B. The Sentence: The parties agree that the recommendations contained herein fairly and accurately set forth some guidelines that may be applicable to this case. The parties further agree that either party may request a sentence above or below the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines range (combined Total Offense Level and Criminal History Category) ultimately determined by the Court under any chapter of the Guidelines; Title 18, United States Code, Section 3553; or any other provision or rule of law not addressed in this agreement.

#### 3. ELEMENTS:

As to Count One, the defendant admits to knowingly violating Title 8, United States Code, Section 1326(a), and admits there is a factual basis for the plea and further fully understands that the elements of the crime are:

- (1) Defendant was an alien who previously had been removed from the United States;
- (2) Defendant was knowingly and unlawfully present in the Eastern District of Missouri; and
- (3) Defendant had not obtained the express consent of the Attorney General of the United States or the Secretary of Homeland Security to reapply for admission to the United States.

#### 4. <u>FACTS</u>:

The parties agree that the facts in this case are as follows and that the government would prove these facts beyond a reasonable doubt if the case were to go to trial. These facts may be considered as relevant conduct pursuant to Section 1B1.3:

On October 9, 2019, Defendant was arrested by the United States Border Patrol, near Calexico, California. Subsequent to his arrest, he was issued an Expedited Removal and was removed through the Calexico, California Port of entry on October 9, 2019.

On October 7, 2024, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Enforcement and Removal Operations in St. Louis, Missouri received a biometric "hit" that identified Defendant as being in the St. Louis area. Specifically, the "hit" showed Defendant having been arrested by a local police department. Investigators determined that this "hit" was likely the result of an October 2024 arrest for driving without a license by the Wright City, Missouri Police Department (which Defendant subsequently pled guilty to).

On February 23, 2025, Investigators with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) were notified that Defendant was again arrested for driving without a license and was booked into the Warren County jail. HSI investigators contacted members of the Warren County Sheriff's Department and confirmed that the individual arrested was the Defendant.

According to official records maintained by the Department of Homeland Security, Defendant is a Mexican national who had been removed from the United States on October 9, 2019, after unlawfully entering the United States and a court ordering his removal on October 9, 2019.

Defendant is a citizen of Mexico and has not applied for or received permission from the Attorney General of the United States or the Secretary of Homeland Security to re-apply for admission into the United States following his prior removal from the United States.

### 5. <u>STATUTORY PENALTIES</u>:

Defendant fully understands that the maximum possible penalty provided by law for the crime to which the defendant is pleading guilty is imprisonment of not more than two (2) years, a fine of not more than \$250,000, or both such imprisonment and fine. The Court may also impose a period of supervised release of not more than one (1) year. In the event Defendant is subject to

any undischarged or anticipated term of imprisonment imposed by any court, Defendant has been apprised by counsel that the sentence imposed in this case may be imposed consecutively to the undischarged or anticipated term of imprisonment.

## 6. U.S. SENTENCING GUIDELINES: 2024 MANUAL:

Defendant understands that this offense is affected by the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and the actual sentencing range is determined by both the Total Offense Level and the Criminal History Category. The parties agree that the following are the applicable U.S. Sentencing Guidelines Total Offense Level provisions.

## a. Chapter 2 Offense Conduct:

- (1) <u>Base Offense Level</u>: The parties agree that the base offense level is 8, as found in Section 2L1.2(a).
- (2) <u>Specific Offense Characteristics</u>: The parties agree that the following Specific Offense Characteristics apply: none.

#### b. Chapter 3 Adjustments:

(1) Acceptance of Responsibility: The parties recommend that two levels should be deducted pursuant to Section 3E1.1(a), because the defendant has clearly demonstrated acceptance of responsibility. The parties agree that the defendant's eligibility for this deduction is based upon information presently known. If the Government subsequently receives new evidence of statements or conduct by the defendant which it believes are inconsistent with defendant's eligibility for this deduction—including any violation of this agreement—the Government may present said evidence to the Court and argue that the defendant should not receive all or part of the deduction pursuant to Section 3E1.1 without violating the plea agreement.

c. <u>Estimated Total Offense Level</u>: The parties estimate that the Total Offense Level is

- d. <u>Criminal History</u>: The determination of the defendant's Criminal History Category shall be left to the Court. Either party may challenge, before and at sentencing, the finding of the Presentence Report as to the defendant's criminal history and the applicable category. The defendant's criminal history is known to the defendant and is substantially available in the Pretrial Services Report.
- e. Effect of Parties' U.S. Sentencing Guidelines Analysis: The parties agree that the Court is not bound by the Guidelines analysis agreed to herein. The parties may not have foreseen all applicable Guidelines. The Court may, in its discretion, apply or not apply any Guideline despite the agreement herein, and the parties shall not be permitted to withdraw from the plea agreement. The Government recognizes it is bound by the specific agreements made herein but reserves the right to answer any questions the U.S. Probation Office or the Court might have related to sentencing or present evidence at the Court's request.

## 7. WAIVER OF APPEAL AND POST-CONVICTION RIGHTS:

- a. <u>Appeal:</u> Defendant has been fully apprised by defense counsel of the Defendant's rights concerning appeal and fully understands the right to appeal the sentence under Title 18, United States Code, Section 3742.
- (1) Non-Sentencing Issues: The parties waive all rights to appeal all non-jurisdictional, non-sentencing issues, including, but not limited to, any issues relating to pretrial motions, discovery, the guilty plea, the constitutionality of the statute(s) to which Defendant is pleading guilty and whether Defendant's conduct falls within the scope of the statute(s).

- (2) <u>Sentencing Issues</u>: The parties agree to waive the right to appeal all sentencing issues except those related to: (1) application of Sentencing Guidelines offense-level adjustments (including those based on criminal history) not specifically set forth in the plea agreement or non-application of adjustments specifically set forth in the agreement; (2) calculation of the Defendant's criminal history category; or (3) substantive reasonableness of the sentence—above the Guideline range ultimately determined by the Court for appeals taken by Defendant, or below that range for appeals taken by the Government.
- **b.** <u>Habeas Corpus</u>: Defendant agrees to waive all rights to contest the conviction or sentence in any post-conviction proceeding, including one pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 2255, except for claims of prosecutorial misconduct or ineffective assistance of counsel.
- c. <u>Right to Records</u>: Defendant waives all rights, whether asserted directly or by a representative, to request from any department or agency of the United States any records pertaining to the investigation or prosecution of this case, including any records that may be sought under the Freedom of Information Act, Title 5, United States Code, Section 522, or the Privacy Act, Title 5, United States Code, Section 552(a).

#### 8. OTHER:

- a. <u>Disclosures Required by the United States Probation Office</u>: Defendant agrees to truthfully complete and sign forms as required by the United States Probation Office prior to sentencing and consents to the release of these forms and any supporting documentation by the United States Probation Office to the Government.
- b. <u>Civil or Administrative Actions not Barred; Effect on Other Governmental Agencies:</u>

Nothing contained herein limits the rights and authority of the government to take any civil, tax, immigration/deportation or administrative action against the Defendant.

- c. <u>Supervised Release</u>: Pursuant to any supervised release term, the Court will impose standard conditions upon Defendant and may impose special conditions related to the crime Defendant committed. These conditions will be restrictions on Defendant to which Defendant will be required to adhere. Violation of the conditions of supervised release resulting in revocation may require Defendant to serve a term of imprisonment equal to the length of the term of supervised release, but not greater than the term set forth in Title 18, United States Code, Section 3583(e)(3), without credit for the time served after release. Defendant understands that parole has been abolished.
- d. <u>Mandatory Special Assessment</u>: Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 3013, the Court is required to impose a mandatory special assessment of \$100 per count for a total of \$100, which Defendant agrees to pay at the time of sentencing. Money paid by Defendant toward any restitution or fine imposed by the Court shall be first used to pay any unpaid mandatory special assessment.
- e. <u>Possibility of Detention</u>: Defendant may be subject to immediate detention pursuant to the provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3143.
- f. <u>Fines and Costs of Incarceration and Supervision</u>: The Court may impose a fine, costs of incarceration and costs of supervision. Defendant agrees that any fine imposed by the Court will be due and payable immediately.
- g. <u>Forfeiture</u>: Defendant knowingly and voluntarily waives any right, title, and interest in all items seized by law enforcement officials during the course of their investigation, whether or

not they are subject to forfeiture, and agrees not to contest the vesting of title of such items in the United States. Defendant agrees to abandon his interest in all seized items and further agrees that said items may be disposed of or destroyed by law enforcement officials in any manner without further notice. By abandoning these items, the defendant waives any future rights to receive additional notice, a valuation of the items, or the opportunity to submit a claim to contest the disposition or destruction of the items that may exist under any policies or procedures of the seizing agency(ies).

### 9. ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND WAIVER OF THE DEFENDANT'S RIGHTS:

In pleading guilty, Defendant acknowledges, fully understands and, hereby waives his rights, including but not limited to: the right to plead not guilty to the charges; the right to be tried by a jury in a public and speedy trial; the right to file pretrial motions, including motions to suppress or exclude evidence; the right at such trial to a presumption of innocence; the right to require the Government to prove the elements of the offenses charged against Defendant beyond a reasonable doubt; the right not to testify; the right not to present any evidence; the right to be protected from compelled self-incrimination; the right at trial to confront and cross-examine adverse witnesses; and the right to testify and present evidence and the right to compel the attendance of witnesses. Defendant further understands that by this guilty plea, Defendant expressly waives all the rights set forth in this paragraph.

Defendant fully understands that Defendant has the right to be represented by counsel, and if necessary, to have the Court appoint counsel at trial and at every other stage of the proceeding. Defendant's counsel has explained these rights and the consequences of the waiver of these rights.

Defendant fully understands that, as a result of the guilty plea, no trial will, in fact, occur and that the only action remaining to be taken in this case is the imposition of the sentence.

Defendant is fully satisfied with the representation received from defense counsel. Defendant has reviewed the Government's evidence and discussed the Government's case and all possible defenses and defense witnesses with defense counsel. Defense counsel has completely and satisfactorily explored all areas which Defendant has requested relative to the Government's case and any defenses.

The guilty plea could impact Defendant's immigration status or result in deportation. In particular, if any crime to which Defendant is pleading guilty is an "aggravated felony" as defined by Title 8, United States Code, Section 1101(a)(43), removal or deportation is presumed mandatory. Defense counsel has advised Defendant of the possible immigration consequences, including deportation, resulting from the plea.

#### 10. VOLUNTARY NATURE OF THE GUILTY PLEA AND PLEA AGREEMENT

This document constitutes the entire agreement between Defendant and the Government, and no other promises or inducements have been made, directly or indirectly, by any agent of the Government, including any Department of Justice attorney, concerning any plea to be entered in this case. In addition, the Defendant states that no person has, directly or indirectly, threatened or coerced Defendant to do or refrain from doing anything in connection with any aspect of this case, including entering a plea of guilty.

Defendant acknowledges having voluntarily entered into both the plea agreement and the guilty plea. Defendant further acknowledges that this guilty plea is made of Defendant's own free will and that the defendant is, in fact, guilty.

## 11. CONSEQUENCES OF POST-PLEA MISCONDUCT

After pleading guilty and before sentencing, if Defendant commits any crime other than minor traffic offenses, violates any conditions of release that results in revocation, violates any term of this guilty-plea agreement, intentionally provides misleading, incomplete or untruthful information to the U.S. Probation Office, or fails to appear for sentencing, the Government, at its option, may be released from its obligations under this agreement. The Government may also, in its discretion, proceed with this agreement and may advocate for any sentencing position supported by the facts, including but not limited to obstruction of justice and denial of acceptance of responsibility.

# 12. NO RIGHT TO WITHDRAW GUILTY PLEA

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(c) and (d), Defendant understands that there will be no right to withdraw the plea entered under this agreement, except where the Court rejects those portions of the plea agreement which deal with charges the Government agrees to dismiss or not to bring.

4/22/25 Date

HILLIP J. VOSS Assistant United States Attorney

29 April Zoes

ANSELMO PUYICATCLA-VENTURA

Defendant

4/29/2S

SCOTT KRISCHKE Attorney for Defendant